

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION
U.S. Non-Provisional Application Serial No. 09/582,950

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please insert the following paragraph at the beginning of the specification, after the title page:

This application is the U.S. national phase of PCT/US99/00419 filed January 8, 1999,
which claims priority to U.S. provisional applications nos. 60/071,070 filed January 9, 1998 and
60/111,531 filed December 9, 1999. ¹⁹⁹⁸